

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08862 201113Z

17

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-03 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 OIC-04 IO-14 L-03 DODE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 DRC-01 /195 W

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O P 200915Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6099

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IMF, IBRD

SUBJ: US POSITION ON EXPANSION OF IMF AND IBRD

EXECUTIVE BOARDS

REF: STATE 206226

1. SUMMARY. WE FEAR THAT REPRESENTATIONS TO FMC ON LINES
PROPOSED REFTEL LIKELY TO HAVE CONTRARY RESULT OF PERSUADING
FMG THAT IF AFRICAN/LDC SEATS AT RISK ON ACCOUNT OF SOUTH
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 08862 201113Z

AFRICA BEST COURSE IS TO CAMPAIGN EARLY AND INSISTENELY FOR

EXPANSION OF IMF AND IBRD BOARDS. BEYOND THAT, WE WOULD EXPECT FMG TO CONCLUDE THAT US "COPPING OUT" ON MATTER OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO NIGERIA, AFRICA, AND LDC'S.

2. GLIB OR EMOTIONAL REACTION WITHIN FMG LIKELY TO BE THAT SITUATION OFFERS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO READ SOUTH AFRICA OUT OF BOTH ORGANIZATIONS.

3. ON MORE CONSIDERED LEVEL WE WOULD EXPECT FMG TO RESPOND THAT THERE CAN BE NO RPT NO QUESTION OF PUTTING AFRICAN/LDC SEATS AT RISK AND CERTAINLY NOT ON ACCOUNT OF SOUTH AFRICA. IN OUR VIEW FMG ALMOST CERTAIN TO TAKE LINE THAT IF DANGER EXISTS THAT NEW SEAT INVOLVING SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT THREATEN AFRICAN/LDC SEATS, IT IS INCUMBENT ON US AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES THAT WIELD PREVONDERANCE OF POWER IN IMM AND IBRD TO USE INFLUENCE THEY HAVE WITH SPAIN, TURKEY, BELGIUM, AUSTRIA, ITALY TO ENSURE AGAINST THAT DANGER; OR ELSE TO AGREE TO EXPAND EXECUTIVE BOARDS TO PROVIDE FOR RETENTION AFRICAN/LDC SEATS.

4. FROM FMG POINT OF VIEW SITUATION WILL BE SEEN TO HAVE ARISEN BECAUSE SOUTH AFRICA STILL ALLOWED INTO INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS AND WE CAN THINK OF NO ARGUMENTS THAT ARE LIKELY PERSUADE FMG TO ENGAGE ITSELF IN DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN THAT WOULD PUT NIGERIA IN POSITION OF SUPPLICANT TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES OVER PROBLEM INVOLVING SOUTH AFRICA WHEN PROBLEM IS NOT OF NIGERIA'S (OR AFRICA'S)

MAKING INVOLVING SOUTH AFRICA AND ONE FOR WHICH FMG WOULD SEE SIMPLE SOLUTIONS OF EXPULSION OR EXPANSION.

5. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE INSTRUCTED TO WITHHOLD REPRESENTATIONS PROPOSED IN REFTEL.

6. IN OUR VIEW, IT IS NOT REALISTIC TO EXPECT FMG TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESSING EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON THIS ISSUE, AND WE THINK US EFFORT TO URGE FMG TO DO SO WOULD ALSO BE CONSTRUED WITHIN FMG AS YET ANOTHER US "COPOUT" ON MATTER AFFECTING NIGERIA AND AFRICA. IF US URGING COMBINED WITH ASSERTION OF UNEQUIVOCAL US OPPOSITION TO EXPANSION OF IMF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 08862 201113Z

AND IBRD BOARDS, WE THINK RESULT WOULD BE NOT ONLY TO CONFIRM FMG IN CONCLUSION THAT US "COPPING OUT" BUT ALSO TO CONVINCE FMG THAT IF IT HAS TO ACT TO PROTECT AFRICAN/LDC INTERESTS, BEST COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE EARLY AND INSISTENT CAMPAIGN FOR EXPANSION IMF AND IBRD BOARDS.

7. WITH RESPECT, WE SUBMIT THAT MORE PROMISING LINE IS ALSO OPEN TO US.

8. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS SUDWECT WITH FMG, BUT TO TAKE LINE THAT US IS ACTING IN CONCERT WITH SELECTED EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS TO PRESS SAPIN, TURKEY, BELGIUM, AUSTRIA, ITALY AND OTHERS AGAINST CREATION OF NEW SEAT TO ACCOMODATE SOUTH AFRICA AND IS REASONABLY CONFIDENT OF SUCCESS; AND THAT IN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES AND NOTWITHSTANDING RUMORS THAT FMG MAY HAVE HAD TO CONTRARY, US SEES NO RPT NO REASON FOR FMG TO SUPPOSE THAT AFRICAN/LDC SEATS ARE IN DANGER; AND ACCORDINGLY THERE IS NO RPT NO REASON FOR FMG OR AFRICANS/LDC'S TO CAMPAIGN FOR EXPANSION OF BOARDS.

9. SEEMS TO US THAT REPRESENTATIONS ON THAT LINE WOULD ACCORD WITH FMG'S (AND AFRICANS') INTERPRETATION OF REALITIES OF SITUATION, AND WOULD ALSO LAY MORE PROMISING FOUNDATION FOR LATER REPRESENTATIONS TO FMG (AND AFRICANS) ON LINES REFTEL, IF SUCH REPRESENTATIONS BECAME NECESSARY.

10. COMMENT: FMG RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTS CONSTRAINTS THAT INHIBIT US AND EUROPE IN OVERALL POSTURE TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA , EUROPE AND US BUT IT IS NOT LIKELY TO ACCEPT THAT WITHIN IMF AND IBRD UNABLE TO RESOLVE COMFORTABLY AND EFFECTIVELY PROCEDURAL PROBLEM OF THIS KIND. FMG (AND WE BELIEVE AFRICANS GENERALLY) WOULD CERTAINLY SUPPORT US/EURVPEAN EFFORTS AT RESOLUTION, IF SUPPORT NEEDED, BUT WE THINK US EFFORT PUT BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESOLUTION ON AFRICANS WILL NOT BE UNDERSTOOD AND WILL BE DEEPLY RESENTED.

11. APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS SOONEST.
REINHARDT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FINANCIAL COOPERATIVES, MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LAGOS08862
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740264-0723
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740928/aaaaaxpu.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 206226
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US POSITION ON EXPANSION OF IMF AND IBRD EXECUTIVE BOARDS
TAGS: EFIN, XG, NI, IMF, IBRD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005